

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Austria (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT Changes in Zistersdorf Administration,
Complaints of Zistersdorf Workers

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1. About 15 May 1948, the former deputy personnel chief of the Zistersdorf Oil Staff, Jakob GROSSEBART, was named director of the Forneburg refinery. At this time, it became apparent that reorganization or elimination of the Oil Staff was beginning.
2. As of mid-June 1948, the Oil Staff was finally dissolved. Director LUTKOV, a former chief of the Oil Staff, was transferred to the Central Administration of the Soviet Oil Companies in Austria, Vienna I, Kantgasse 1. Other personnel formerly attached to the Oil Staff were distributed among the various companies in accordance with their specialties and their ability. Functions of the Oil Staff, which were concerned primarily with internal administration of the oil firms, have now been taken over by the central office in Kantgasse.
3. KUZMICHIEV, Soviet director of the most productive of the Zistersdorf fields, will shortly be replaced. His successor is said to have been at the Kantgasse office since about 1 June 1948. KUZMICHIEV's predecessor, OTRECHKO, a close relative of KLABININ, Chief of Soviet oil administration in Austria, was removed from his position several months ago and transferred to Kantgasse.
4. As of the middle of May 1948, all Zistersdorf oil workers who were members of the union of oil workers became automatically members of the Society for the Cultivation of Cultural and Scientific Relations with the Soviet Union.
5. Source learned from the bookkeeper of one of the oil fields that the Central Works Council for Zistersdorf had written a protest note to Gen. KURASOV relative to the Soviet delay in negotiating collective wage agreements. In reply, KURASOV wrote a letter, which the bookkeeper claimed to have seen, saying that he could not intervene in the matter since CASOCA (see para 2) was no longer under his jurisdiction but had recently been made responsible directly to Moscow. [REDACTED] This is doubtless a mere subterfuge on KURASOV's part to avoid responsibility for the Soviet delay.
6. As of 20 June, construction on the Moosbierbaum refinery was resumed.

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